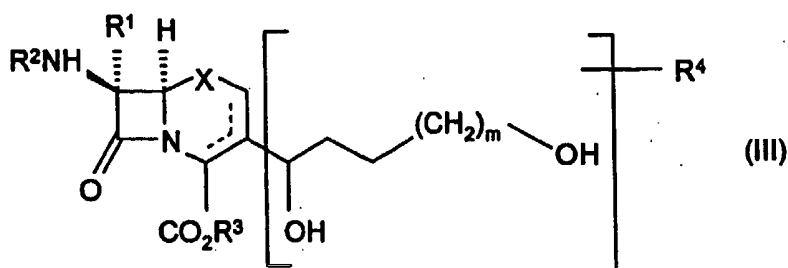


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This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

- 1-15. (canceled).
17. (canceled)
18. (canceled)
21. **(PREVIOUSLY AMENDED)** A compound of formula (III),



wherein R¹ is hydrogen, methoxy or formamido; R² is an acyl group; R³ is hydrogen or a carboxy protecting group; R⁴ represents hydrogen or up to four substituents selected from alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, alkoxy, halogen, amino, alkylamino, acylamino, dialkylamino, CO₂R, CONR₂, SO₂NR₂ (where R is hydrogen or C₁₋₆ alkyl), aryl and heterocyclyl, which may be the same or different; X is S, SO, SO₂, O, or CH₂; and m is 1 or 2; and the dotted line indicates that the compound may be a 2-cephem or a 3-cephem system, and where the substituent(s) R⁴ when other than hydrogen may replace any of the hydrogen atoms bonded to carbon atoms in the side chain.